Previous file
No.

MILITARY COLLECTION No. 386

IOR:L/MIL/7/15807

File 21.

GENERAL HEADING - British West africa.

SUB-HEAD - Engagement in India of Transport Assistants & Clerks for service in N. Nigeria.

To India, No. 120 p. 25 dated 10 Nov. 1905.	Forwards b.o. letter suggesting introduction of Indian transport drivers and clerks to N. Nigeria.	
To India, No. 103 Finl. p. dated 7 Septr. 1906.	Pension contributions of Transport Assistants in N. Nigeria	
From India, No. 53(M.S.) p.7 dated 22nd Aug. 1907.	Asks for copy of agreement entered into by b.o. with Babu Ram Chander Sunker.	
To India, No. 197 p.5 dated 29 Novr. 1907.	Fds correspondence with Col. Off. regarding the agreement signed by Babu Ram Chander Sunker on entering the service of Govt of Northern Nigeria. A copy of agreet signed by all 2nd subordinates who went to Northern Nigeria with Cond. P. Carrigan also enclosed	
From India, No. 62 p.24 dated 10 June 1909.	Babu Ram Chander Sunker. Terms of engagement as a clerk.	
To India, No. 92 p. 10 dated 23 July 1909.	Ram Chander Sunker has arrived home and will be sent back to India at an early date.	
India, No. p. dated 190 .		
India, No. p. dated 190 .		

1905. M. 14063

1906. M. 16051

1907. M. 12267, 14904, 15748,

1909. M. 8370

Memoranda.

Next file
No.

Y 9377. 1000.—12/1903. I. 2523.

(2)

Put away _____

Return to _____

Reminder on _____

Examined Registry _____

MARKED OFF INDEXED

M
8370
1909

EXTRACT

MILITARY DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

No. 92 para, 10

Dated 23rd July 1909.

---

10. Ram Chander Sunker, an Indian clerk recently employed in Northern Nigeria, has arrived in this country, and will embark for India at an early date.

M 8370.

(Sent in advance by mail of 2nd July 1909.)

[*In reply to paragraph 24 of your Despatch in the Army Department, No. 62, dated 10th June 1909.*]

(Form 5.)

4753. I. 2367. 1500.—12/1908.

(3)

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 3.

M
8370
1909.

MARKED OFF.
INDEXED

DRAFT LETTER PAPER.

Addressed to—

The Secretary to the Government of India,

Army Department.

Put away Apk

Return to Mr.

Reminder on

Examined Registry

INDIA OFFICE,

2 JUL. 1909

DEAR SIR,

I forward herewith an advance copy of a paragraph regarding Ram Chander Sunker an Indian Clerk recently employed in Northern Nigeria which will be included in a Military Despatch shortly to be sent to the Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) J. H. SEABROOKE.
Asst. Military Secretary.

~~General~~,

~~Military Secretary.~~

4319.

(Form 3.)

4730. I. 2345. 250.—12/1908. [I. 474.]

M
8370
1909

(4)

386/21

15748/07

EXTRACT PARA. 24 OF AN ARMY DESPATCH FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, NO. 62, DATED 10TH JUNE 1909.

* * * * * * *

24. The services of Babu Ram Chander Sunker, a clerk of the office of the Director-General, Army Remount Department, were placed at the disposal of Conductor P. Carrigan, Assistant Transport Officer for Northern Nigeria, in January 1906, for employment under the Nigerian Government for a period of three years, with effect from the 20th March 1906, the date of arrival of the Indians in West Africa.

From paragraph 12 of the agreement entered into with the Indians it would appear that Babu Ram Chander Sunker was required to give notice of his intention three months before the termination of his period of engagement as to whether he desired to remain permanently in the employment of the Nigerian Government.

The original term of three years having expired on the 19th March last and no intimation having been received so far, we request that the Colonial Office may be moved to ascertain from the Nigerian Government the date when the clerk named above will return to India, or whether he has been re-engaged by the Protectorate Government beyond the original term of three years, and if so, for what period. [*With reference to paragraph 5 of military despatch No. 197, dated India Office, the 29th November 1907 (M-15,748).*]

* * * * * * *

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

(Signed) MINTO.
„ KITCHENER.
„ H. ADAMSON.
„ J. O. MILLER.
„ W. L. HARVEY.
„ GUY FLEETWOOD WILSON.
„ S. P. SINHA.

RECEIVED
MILITARY REGISTRY
28 JUN. 1909
INDIA OFFICE.

Extract para. 24 of an Army Despatch to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 62, dated 10th June 1909.

---

24. Enquiry whether Babu Ram Chander Sunker, a clerk in the office of the Director-General, Army Remount Department, who was engaged for three years for service in Northern Nigeria, will return to India or whether he has been re-engaged by the Protectorate Government beyond the original term of his engagement.

Return to _____

Examined Registry _____

M.S.

MARKED OFF
INDEXED

M
15748
1907.

EXTRACT

MILITARY DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

No. 197 para. 5

Dated 29th November 1907.

---

5. I forward copy of a letter* from the Colonial Office regarding the agreement signed by Babu Ram Chander Sunker on entering the service of the Government of Northern Nigeria. A copy of the agreement signed by all the Indian subordinates who went to Northern Nigeria with Conductor P. Carrigan, is also enclosed.

M 15,748.

* Dated 22nd October 1907.

[*In reply to paragraph 7 of your Despatch in the Military Supply Department, No.* 53, *dated 22nd August* 1907.]

(Form 5.)

168. I. 231. 2500.—2/1907.

(6)

INDEXED

pp
14904

M
15748
1907.

With the Compliments of the Under-Secretary
of State for the Colonies to the Military
Secretary, India Office as requested
in India Office Note of 24 Oct 07,
M 14904/07.

Colonial Office, Downing Street,

7th. Nov. 1907

RECEIVED
10 a.m.
9 NOV. 1907
INDIA OFFICE.

Para 5 M.S

M
15748

PROTECTORATE OF NORTHERN NIGERIA. 1907.

AGREEMENT made the day of
1906 BETWEEN the undersigned
acting on behalf of the Government of Northern Nigeria (hereinafter called the Government), and

(hereinafter called the person engaged).

1. The person engaged agrees to proceed to Northern Nigeria (hereinafter called the Protectorate) when directed by,
and undertakes that he will there diligently and faithfully perform the duties of a

for the term of his engagement, and will act in all respects according to the instructions or directions given to him by the Government through the Head of his Department or other properly qualified Officers.

2. The person engaged shall be paid a salary at the rate of (£) a year.

3. This agreement is subject to the conditions set forth in the Schedule hereto annexed, and the Schedule shall be read and construed as a part of the agreement.

AS WITNESS our hands the day and year above written.

Signed by
Assistant Transport Officer, Northern Nigeria, in the presence of
Clerk, Northern Nigeria.

Signed

Para 5 M.S. (8)

Signed by in the

presence of

Name.

Address.

Occupation.

(9)
Paras MS

orthern Nigeria, 1st December, 1905.

SCHEDULE.

erm of engage-ment.

1. The term of the engagement of the person engaged is for 3 or 5 years continuous residential service, commencing from the date of arrival in the Protectorate, which period may be extended as provided for in Clause 12.

Duties.

2. The duties of the person engaged shall include the usual duties of the office in which he is engaged, and in addition any other suitable duties which the Government may call upon him to perform. The person engaged shall, on arrival in the Protectorate and during the time he shall continue in the service of the Government, reside in such place and occupy himself in such manner as the Government, through its properly qualified officers, shall direct, and he shall not, either directly or indirectly, engage or be concerned in any other service or business whatsoever or receive commission or profits of any kind, but shall devote the whole of his time and attention to the service of the Government and shall use his utmost exertions to promote the interests of the Government.

Salary.

3. (1) Half salary will be paid from the date of engagement in India, and similarly for the period subsequent to leaving Africa and prior to discharge in India. Full salary will begin from the date of arrival in the Protectorate.

(2) An advance of three months full salary will

family allotments being paid in India.

(3) The salary of the person engaged is liable to a deduction not exceeding the difference between the amount of pay earned in India prior to appointment, and that now engaged on, until such deductions shall amount to the sum paid or part thereof for his passage to the Protectorate, which sum the Government may retain until the termination of this engagement, when, if his conduct has been satisfactory, the whole amount will be refunded to him, but if he shall resign his appointment for any other cause than ill health. (not caused by his own misconduct) or shall be dismissed from his employment for serious misconduct, or similarly if he proved idle or useless the cost of his passage or part thereof to the Protectorate will be repaid out of the sum so deducted. This power will be exercised with justice by the High Commissioner of the Protectorate and no one else.

(4) The salary of the person engaged may also be liable to deductions under Clauses 9, 10 and 11.

Quarters. 4. Usually quarters are provided which are of a permanent nature at the larger centres, but of a temporary nature at the more outlying stations.

Passages. 5. (1) "Passage" in this agreement means a deck passage from India to West Africa.

(2) The Government shall provide the person engaged with a passage to the Protectorate, but shall provide him with a passage back to India only as hereinafter provided.

(3).

Paras MS

(11)

(3) The Government shall provide the person engaged with railway fare to the port of embarkation on first engagement and from port of disembarkation on termination of this agreement.

Ill-health.

6. (1) If the person engaged shall be compelled by reason of ill-health (not caused by his own misconduct) to resign his appointment or if at any time it shall be certified by a duly qualified medical officer employed by the Government that he is incapable on physical grounds of rendering further efficient service in the Protectorate, the Government shall pay him his full salary up to the date of such resignation or certificate, and half salary from date of such resignation or certificate until arrival at place of engagement in India and shall provide him with a free passage to place of engagement in India after which he shall have no further claim on the Government.

(2) A certificate signed by a duly qualified medical officer employed by the Government shall be conclusive evidence on the question whether or not the person engaged was compelled to resign his appointment by reason of ill-health within the meaning of this clause.

Dismissal.

7. If the person engaged shall at any time neglect or refuse, or from any cause (excepting ill-health not caused by his own misconduct as provided in clause 6) become unable to comply with any of the clauses of this agreement or any of the duties required of him or any of the orders of the Government or their officers or shall correspond verbally or otherwise

directly

Saras MS

directly or indirectly about the affairs of the Government with any person not in the employment of the Government or shall publish directly or indirectly any document or information of any kind affecting the Government or shall in any manner misconduct himself, it shall be competent for the Government to declare his employment at an end and he shall be forthwith dismissed by the Government, and all rights and advantages reserved to him by this agreement shall cease and he shall be liable to repay the amount or part thereof paid for his passage to the Protectorate on demand.

Determination of engagement.

8. (1) The Government may at any time determine the engagement of the person engaged on giving him three months' notice in writing, or on paying him one month's salary, and in either case, providing with a free passage to place of engagement in India.

(2) The person engaged may, at any time after the expiration of three months from the commencement of any residential service, determine his engagement on giving to the Government three months' notice in writing, or on paying to the Government one month's salary, and in either case repaying the cost of his passage or part thereof as may be decided by the High Commissioner to and from the Protectorate. He shall not in either case be entitled to a return passage to India.

Liability to make good damage.

9. In the event of any pecuniary damage arising from the person engaged disregarding or failing to comply with any standing order or departmental instruction or from any neglect of duty whatsoever on his part, he may be liable to a deduction from his salary to make good the damage or any part thereof, the amount of which shall be fixed by the High Commissioner.

Drunkenness. 10. If the person engaged shall, by indulgence in any stimulant incapacitate himself for the performance of any of his duties, his salary shall be liable to reduction to such extent not exceeding one-half thereof and for such period the High Commissioner may determine.

Fines. 11. If the person engaged shall commit any breach of this agreement, or of any bye-law, regulation, or instruction, or shall in any way misconduct himself, the High Commissioner may after such investigation and upon such evidence as he may think fit, fine him.

Further employment. 12. Three months before the date on which he will be due to leave the Protectorate at the end of his period of engagement, the person engaged shall give notice in writing to the Government whether he desires to remain in its employment permanently, and the Government shall thereupon decide whether it will offer him further employment, in which case the re-engagement will be on such terms and for such period as may be mutually agreed. The question of vacation, leave, or a bonus in lieu of leave, as also the question of bringing to the Protectorate his wife and family (if any), will then be considered.

Pensions. 13. Should the person engaged be employed in the service of the Government of India, in an appointment which carries a pension and in order to count his service in Africa continuously for such pension, compensation will be paid by the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria to the Government of India.

Rations 14. The person engaged shall receive free rations (on the same scale as Transport attendants employed on

Field

(16)

MARKED OFF

INDEXED

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

DRAFT LETTER to—

M
14904
1907

Put away after issue _____

Return to Mr. ~~Headley~~

Copy for _____

Reminder on _____

Examined in Registry ✓

The U. S. of S.
Colonial Office.

INDIA OFFICE,

8 NOV. 1907

Sir,

With reference

~~In reply~~ to your letter of the 22nd Oct., No. 32672/1907 I am directed to ~~inform you that~~ request that you will be so good ~~enough~~ as to cause me to be furnished with a further copy of the blank form of agreement signed by all the Indian subordinates who went to Northern Nigeria with Conductor P. Carrigan.

7/11/07

7462 G

Pola 7.11.07

(Form 10.)

692. I. 890. 10,000.—5/1907.

Communications on this subject should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.,

and the following Number quoted. 32672/1907.

M
14904
1907.

DOWNING STREET,

22 October, 1907.

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.M.12267 of the 12th of September, enquiring whether a copy can be supplied of the agreement signed by Babu Ram Chander Sunker on entering the service of the Government of Northern Nigeria, or, failing that, whether the period of engagement can be stated.

2. In the letter from this Department of the 20th of May last a copy was sent to you of Sir F.Lugard's confidential despatch of the 15th of May 1906 and of the enclosures to that despatch. It will be seen that one enclosure was a blank form of the agreement signed by all the Indians who went to Northern Nigeria with Conductor P. Carrigan, including Babu Ram Chander Sunker. The first clause of the Schedule to the agreement provides that "the term of the engagement of the person engaged is for 3 or five years continuous residential service, commencing from the date of arrival in the Protectorate, which period may be extended as provided for in clause 12". It would appear from the third paragraph of Sir F.Lugard's confidential despatch of the 15th of May that the alternative of the three years engagement was the one actually chosen. The three years would date from the 20th of March 1906 when the Indians arrived in West Africa.

RECEIVED 22 OCT 1907 INDIA OFFICE

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
INDIA OFFICE.

3. The

74
1+30+
1902

(18)

Paras MS

3. The High Commissioner will no doubt state when the time comes up for the decision to be made, whether it is wished that Mr. Ram Chander Sunker, or any of the other Indians, should be re-engaged beyond the original period of three years.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Hy. Just.

MARKED OFF.

INDEXED

(19)

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

DRAFT LETTER to—

M
12264
1904

Put away after issue 9/10

Return to Mr.

Copy for

Reminder on

Examined in Registry

d. 22nd August 1907

6059.

(Form 10.) 10.9.07

692. I. 890. 10,000.—5/1907.

U. S. of S.
Colonial Office.

INDIA OFFICE,

12 SEP. 1907

Sir,

~~In reply~~ to your letter of the (with reference to your letter No. 36587/1905, of 20th Oct. 1905) I am directed to ~~inform you that~~ forward an extract of a despatch from the Govt. of India and to enquire whether a copy ~~of the~~ can be supplied of the agreement signed by Babu Ram Chander Sunker on entering the service of the Govt. of Southern Nigeria, or, failing that, whether the period of engagement can be stated.

I have, &c.

(Sd) J. H. SEABROOKE.
Asst. Military Secretary.

11/9

M
12267
1907.

EXTRACT PARA. 7 OF A (MILITARY SUPPLY) DESPATCH FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, NO. 53, DATED THE 22ND AUGUST 1907.

* * * * * * * *

7. We request that the Colonial Office may be asked to obtain from the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria a copy of the agreement entered into with Babu Ram Chander Sunker, late a clerk in the office of the Director-General, Army Remount Department, who was engaged in India by Conductor P. Carrigan of the Supply and Transport Corps for service in that Protectorate. If no formal agreement was signed by the clerk, we request to be informed of the period of his engagement. [*With reference to paragraph 25 of military despatch No. 120, dated India Office, the 10th November 1905 (M-14063).*]

We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient, humble Servants,

(Signed) MINTO.
„ KITCHENER.
„ H. ERLE RICHARDS.
„ E. N. BAKER.
„ C. H. SCOTT.
„ H. ADAMSON.
„ J. F. FINLAY.
„ J. O. MILLER.

Extract para. 7 of a Military Supply Despatch to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 53, dated the 22nd August 1907.

* * * * * * *

7. Request to be furnished with a copy of the agreement entered into with the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria by Babu Ram Chander Sunker, late a clerk in the office of the Director-General, Army Remount Department.

EXAMINED REGISTRY

MARKED OFF

Military with App

Extract

Coll 386/21

M
16051
1906

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON.

7th SEPTEMBER 1906.

FINANCIAL.

No.103.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

My Lord,

1. With reference to the 20th paragraph of my predecessor's Despatch dated the 10th November 1905, No.120 (Military), regarding the engagement in India of Transport Assistants and Clerks for service in Northern Nigeria, I transmit a copy of a letter from the Crown Agents for the Colonies regarding their pension contributions, and I request to be informed whether the monthly rates given in the two schedules are correct, and from what dates the contributions are due.

Dated 10th August 1906 and enclosures.

16079/06

£3-0-10

The sum of £3.0.10 has been received from the Crown Agents, and will be included in an Account Current to be sent to India for the month of August 1906.

(Sd) John Morley.

True copy.
W. Foster

Papers MARKED OFF INDEXED

(22)

M
14063
1905.

Reference Paper. Military Department.

Referred to Financial Secretary The 31 Oct 1905.

F
8036
1905

For his information.

Seen and returned with thanks. I shall be glad to see the Sub. of India's reply in due course.

L. Abraham.

18 Nov. 1905.

H. Redman
General,
Military Secretary.

(Form 24.)

15325. I. 2442. 2000.—12/1904.

(23)

MARKED OFF
INDEXED

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 5.

M
14063
190 5.

EXTRACT

MILITARY DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Italy Sec Reg.

No. 120 para. 25

Dated 10 Nov 190 5.

25. I forward herewith copy of a letter* from the Colonial Office regarding the engagement in India of Transport Assistants and Clerks for service in Northern Nigeria.

M 14,063.

[*In continuation of my Military Telegram, dated 23rd October* 1905.]

* Dated 20th October 1905, and enclosures.

(Sent in advance by mail of 27th October 1905.)

(Form 5.)

15762. I. 614. 2500.—4/1905.

(24)

Return to Mr. _____

MARKED OFF

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 3.

DRAFT LETTER PAPER.

M
14063
190

Addressed to—

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Military Department.

INDIA OFFICE,

25 OCT. 1905

DEAR SIR,

I forward herewith a copy of a paragraph regarding the engagement in India of certain subordinates for service in Northern Nigeria which will be included in a Military Despatch shortly to be sent to the Viceroy.

Yours truly,

(Sd) E. STEDMAN.

General,

Military Secretary.

(Form 3.)

15144. I. 2109. 250.—10/1904.

(25)

Copy.

Minute Paper.

M
14063
1905

Military Department.

Letter No.

Received
} 190 .

Formally acknowledged _____

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
Under Secretary	23.X.05	E/	Northern Nigeria.
Secretary of State			—
Committee			Natives of India for service as
Under Secretary.....			Transport Assistants and Clerks.
Secretary of State			
Council			

Approved Council, 190 . Mil. Sec. Mr.
Letter to CO No. M. dated 190 .
Despatch to No. „ 190 .
Telegram to Viceroy. No. 27 „ 23 Oct 1905

Send off sp.
23.10-1905
HW

Tel^m sent 23.10.05
(21 words)
W.S-V.

In the annexed letter the Colonial Office state that it is proposed to engage a certain number of natives of India for service in Northern Nigeria as Transport Assistants and Clerks, and that Conductor Carrigan has been sent to India to engage twenty eight such men. It is requested that the Gov^t. of India may be informed and requested to

Cost recoverable from Colonial Office

Noted for recovery
E.T

Port
23.10.05

(Form 15.)

15142. K 2107. 2000.—10/1904.

to afford Conductor Carrigan facilities.

Draft telegram submitted:

Vaporabo

S. of S. to Viceroy, Mily. Dept.

Cyniolam Mullorum

Colonial Office asks for facilities

for Conductor Carrigan to engage

Elusit

twenty eight Transport Assistants

Stinguam

and ten clerks for service in

Nawandum

Northern Nigeria. He embarked for

Dicticos Stuets

India from England 11th October.

Sent 23:10.
(21 hours)
A.S.-V.

qm

Return to Mr. Headlam

Copy for India

(26)

MARKED OFF

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 10.

DRAFT LETTER PAPER.

M
14063
1905

Addressed to U. S. of S.
Colonial Office.

Reminder in weeks.

Noted for

d. 23 Oct. 1905

INDIA OFFICE,

24 OCT. 1905

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th October, No. 36587/05

~~and to inform you in reply that~~ in India regarding the proposed engagement of certain subordinates for service in Northern Nigeria and in reply to enclose for the information of Mr. Secretary Lyttelton copy of a telegram despatched to the ~~Viceroy~~ Govt of India on the subject. A copy of your letter under reply will also be sent to the Govt. of that country for their information.

(Sd.) Horace Walpole.

(Form 10.)

15368. I. 2524. 10,000.—12/1904.

Communications on this subject should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.,

and the following Number quoted. 36587/1905.

PRESSING.

M
14063
1905

(27)

Downing Street,

20 October, 1905.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Lyttelton to request you to inform Mr. Secretary Brodrick that he has been in communication with Sir F.Lugard, High Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury with regard to a proposal that a certain number of transport drivers should be introduced into the Protectorate from India in order to instruct the natives in the use of wheeled transport with which they are at present quite unfamiliar; and further that the opportunity should be taken to engage at the same time a certain number of clerks as the supply of competent clerks among the natives of West Africa has proved insufficient to meet the demand.

C.O. to Treasury. 12th October.

2. I am to enclose a copy of a letter sent from this Department to the Treasury on the 12th of October which gives in greater detail the general features of the proposal. Their Lordships have agreed to what is suggested in that letter and Sub-Conductor Carrigan (who was originally lent by the Government of India to Northern Nigeria in October, 1903) left England on the 11th instant for India where it is proposed that he

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
INDIA OFFICE.

RECEIVED
21 OCT 1905
INDIA OFFICE

Sir H
10t

he should select the twenty-eight Transport Assistants and Ten Clerks required.

3. I am also to enclose a letter from Sir F. Lugard on the subject and to say that Mr. Lyttelton would be glad if, as there desired, a telegram could be sent asking the Government of India to give Mr. Carrigan authority to engage the clerks and transport men.

Sir F. Lugard to C.O. 10th October.

4. The question of pension contributions or gratuities in respect of service away from India in the case of these natives can, Mr. Lyttelton considers, be dealt with quite apart from the question as it affects Europeans borrowed from India as to whom there is to be an inter-departmental conference. That is to say, he is prepared in the special case of these natives, and without prejudice to the larger question, to agree to the payment by Northern Nigeria of such pension charges, or gratuities, as the Government of India may consider reasonable. He understands that the charges would not in any case exceed one-eighth per month of the maximum rate of their India pay which, for the purposes of the estimate of cost laid before the Treasury has been taken at £10 per month in the case of the clerks, £3.6.8. per month in the case of the Veterinary Subordinates, £1.0.0. per month in the case of the Transport Artificers, s.d. and 16/0 per month in the case of the Naiks.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Rt. Antrobus

T 2

29

PRESSING

33718/1905.

Downing Street,

12th October, 1905.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Lyttelton to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th of September, (No.16889/05), relating to the proposed employment of natives of India in Northern Nigeria.

2. It was intimated in that letter that, unless it was possible to state, more specifically than had hitherto been done, the probable financial results of the scheme, the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury remained of opinion that in the first instance it should be tried experimentally upon a very moderate scale, in order that practical experience might thus be gained as the basis on which to consider the advisability of the wider measures advocated. Mr. Lyttelton has, therefore, given further consideration to the question, and he now desires to submit the following proposals to their Lordships.

3. In your letter of the 11th of August the following enquiries were made:-

(a) What is the actual annual cost of the Africans whom it is proposed to replace?

(b) Is it proposed to leave the salaries of each grade unchanged and merely substitute Indian for West Africans of the same rank?

(c)

(c)

(c) Is it anticipated that the greater efficiency of the Indians will render it possible to effect any reduction in numbers?

(d) Is it desired to commence with the drivers, clerks or artizans?

4. Taking the last of these questions first, Mr. Lyttelton does not doubt that the papers already laid before their Lordships will have shown that the transport question in Northern Nigeria presents a real and pressing difficulty. The Government has spent much money on road construction in the protectorate, and Sir F.Lugard has stated, in paragraph 7 of his letter of the 2nd of July, that he hopes by the end of this year to have a comparatively good waggon road between Zungeru and Kano. The construction of roads has been primarily undertaken in order to render it possible to substitute animal transport, and in particular draught transport, for the costly method of human porterage, which not only lends itself to many abuses, but is already most difficult to obtain without recourse to forced levies. The use of carts will, it is hoped, also lead to the adoption of this method among the natives and so increase the export trade of the Protectorate. In these circumstances, Mr. Lyttelton considers that the transport drivers are the most urgently required of the three classes of Indians named. The present time, moreover, is a favourable one for introducing the drivers into Northern Nigeria; for, while it appears that they would not be able to speak English, this difficulty can be surmounted owing to the fact that Northern Nigeria possesses at the present time in the Transport Department

four

four officers who have been lent by the Government of India and all of whom speak Hindustani; and there are others in the Public Works Department, etc., who also speak this language. It is thought by the end of three years the natives of the country could be taught all the duties required to work transport satisfactorily, and it would be a great advantage if a temporary expenditure could effect the permanent and considerable saving which, if the result is successful, would ensue from the knowledge acquired by the West African natives of a more economical system of transport.

5. Passing to the first three of the enquiries in your letter, which may be most conveniently taken together, Mr.Lyttelton would place the clerks second in order of urgency; that is to say they would come before the artizans, of whom Sir F.Lugard says in paragraph 2(c) of his letter of the 21st of July that "they are not a primary necessity"; whereas he speaks of the supply of clerks as "exhausted". He has pointed out (in his letter of the 2nd of July) that the funds at the disposal of the administration of Northern Nigeria have not hitherto admitted of provision for education and that the Protectorate depends for its supply of clerks upon the older Coast Colonies, where, however, the supply hardly suffices for more than local requirements. It is not therefore so much a question of "replacing" the senior clerks in Northern Nigeria as of supplying a staff which it is not possible to complete even though provision has been made for them in the estimates, and, if they are not supplied from India, Europeans must be engaged. Sir F.Lugard explains that

each

each Province needs at least a third class clerk, but that at present only four out of the 17 provinces has a clerk of this grade. He would therefore propose to employ the Indians, in the first instance at any rate, at Headquarters, thus liberating a number of third class clerks for the provinces. Failing capable men almost useless men have had to be engaged. Roughly speaking therefore the 10 Indian Clerks would replace 10 of the lowest grade clerks at £60 each and Sir F.Lugard hopes to have at least £600 available out of the provision sanctioned for the present year towards meeting the cost of the Indians. Over £200 of this £600 is already available through unfilled places and the remainder would be saved by actually terminating the requisite number of native clerks' appointments. It may be added that although the Indian clerks are primarily intended to do the work of natives, they may, if they prove as successful as is hoped, make it possible to avoid the engagement of an additional number of Europeans, who receive higher salaries, and thus to effect a reduction of expenditure. As regards the enquiry whether it is proposed to leave the salaries of each grade of native clerks unchanged, merely substituting Indians for West Africans of the same rank, Sir F.Lugard has stated that so far as possible he would, he thinks, endeavour to do as suggested, and the pay of £240 per annum which, it would appear on further enquiry, may be necessary in order to attract the stamp of clerk required, would constitute them "1st grade". Further reference to this increase will be made in a later paragraph of this letter.

(32)

each Province needs at least a third class clerk, but that at present only four out of the 17 provinces has a clerk of this grade. He would therefore propose to employ the Indians, in the first instance at any rate, at Headquarters, thus liberating a number of third class clerks for the provinces. Failing capable men almost useless men have had to be engaged. Roughly speaking therefore the 10 Indian Clerks would replace 10 of the lowest grade clerks at £60 each and Sir F.Lugard hopes to have at least £600 available out of the provision sanctioned for the present year towards meeting the cost of the Indians. Over £200 of this £600 is already available through unfilled places and the remainder would be saved by actually terminating the requisite number of native clerks' appointments. It may be added that although the Indian clerks are primarily intended to do the work of natives, they may, if they prove as successful as is hoped, make it possible to avoid the engagement of an additional number of Europeans, who receive higher salaries, and thus to effect a reduction of expenditure. As regards the enquiry whether it is proposed to leave the salaries of each grade of native clerks unchanged, merely substituting Indians for West Africans of the same rank, Sir F.Lugard has stated that so far as possible he would, he thinks, endeavour to do as suggested, and the pay of £240 per annum which, it would appear on further enquiry, may be necessary in order to attract the stamp of clerk required, would constitute them "1st Grade". Further reference to this Increase will be made in a later paragraph of this letter

6

6. Passing to the number and cost of the Indians to be imported, Mr. Lyttelton agreeing with the views of their Lordships that the experiment is one which it would be well to make on a moderate scale in the first instance, would suggest the arrangement described in the two following paragraphs as giving the minimum numbers which it would be useful to introduce. It will be seen that no artizans other than those required for purely transport purposes are included.

7. Lieutenant Porteous, in his evidence before a local Commission appointed by Sir F.Lugard in Northern Nigeria to investigate this question, stated that for a train of 400 oxen a staff of 63 persons would be necessary. The number of carts which will be working by the end of this year is 200, and Sir F.Lugard considers that the following establishment (though reduced from that allowed to a similar number in India viz: - 32) would suffice for an initial experiment:-

18 Naiks.
2 Salutries (Veterinary subordinates)
2 Narlbunds (Shoeing Smiths)
2 Mistries (Carpenters)
2 Blacksmiths.
2 Saddlers.
28

Sir F. Lugard is of opinion that not less than 18 Naiks should be brought, as they are the men by whom natives of West Africa will be trained to do the work; and of the other men named it is advisable that two of each should be brought both to guard against sickness and because they work better in pairs. It is proposed that this staff

should

should be engaged for five years with the option of terminating the engagement at the end of three years. As regards the cost, it is practically impossible in an experiment of this kind to give precise figures, but it has been calculated that the inclusive cost of pay, passages, rations, and all other charges, would amount when spread over a period of three years to about £60 a year per man, or £1,680 per year for the 28 men, exclusive of the initial cost (i.e.all the expenditure to be incurred in the present financial year) of £1,250 recoverable from the surplus of the past financial year and savings in the current year. The £60 a year allows for the cost of all expenses on the return to India.

8. With regard to clerks Sir F. Lugard has pointed out (in his letter of the 23rd of August) that if a sufficient number are not brought, the difficulty would not be met and that the isolation of a small number of aliens in West Africa would go far towards making the experiment a failure. Mr. Lyttelton is inclined to think that the minimum might be fixed at 10 clerks. The inclusive cost of these would, it is estimated, amount when spread over a period of three years to about £270 per man, or £2,700 a year for the 10 clerks, exclusive again of the initial cost (i.e.all the expenditure to be incurred in the present financial year) of £1,200 recoverable from the surplus of the past financial year and savings in the current year. The £270 a year allows for the cost of all expense on the return to India. The total expenditure for the two classes of men together would thus be approximately £4,380 a year.

9. The figures given in the two previous paragraphs are based on the latest statistics which have been prepared by Sir F, Lugard. It had previously been estimated roughly that the 28 transport drivers would cost, all charges included, £100 a year each for 3 years, that is to say £8,400 for the whole three years. It was thought that the 10 clerks would cost £220 each for three years, that is to say £6,600 for the whole three years. The combined expenditure on the two classes of men would therefore have amounted on this rough calculation to £15,000 for the whole three years. On going more closely into details Sir F. Lugard has considered it necessary to raise the estimated pay of the clerks from £150 per annum to £240 per annum but he has been able to reduce the general estimate in other respects to an extent which more than compensates for this increase. Thus under the revised figures the 28 transport men at £60 a year each will cost £1,680 a year or £5,040 for a period of three years residential service in the Protectorate. Similarly the 10 clerks at £270 a year will cost £8,100 for the three years residential service. The combined cost of the two classes of men under the revised figures thus amounts to £13,140 for the three years residential service as against the £15,000 of the rough estimate. If to the £13,140 is added the total expenditure to be incurred during the present financial year (viz: £2,450) a total of £15,590 is reached as against £15,000 but the larger figure by allowing for three years <u>residential</u> service provides of course for some four months more of service than the smaller figure.

10. Their Lordships are aware that it has been proposed

proposed, if the scheme is approved, that sub-Conductor Carrigan, of the Northern Nigeria transport department who is now in this country on leave of absence, should be sent to India to select the men. Sir F. Lugard has explained that Mr. Carrigan's visit to India would afford an exceptional opportunity of getting the best possible carts and gear at very cheap rates and that it would therefore be an economical arrangement in the long run that about £500 should be spent in the purchase of additional carts and gear in India beyond the number already provided for in the present estimates. It seems to Mr. Lyttelton that there is much force in this proposal which if it is adopted would result in an addition to the authorised expenditure for the current financial year in connection with the present proposals, of £2,950 altogether.

11. Mr. Lyttelton trusts that the considerations urged in the foregoing paragraphs with regard to the reality of the need for the Indians and the further particulars given as to the probable expenditure will enable their Lordships to sanction the experiment being tried on the scale suggested. He would be glad if he could be informed at an early date whether this is so. as in that case steps would at once be taken for the despatch of Mr.Carrigan to India. Sir F Lugard would also be requested to furnish a full report after a year's experience had been gained, showing how wheel transport compared with the methods now in operation.

I am etc.,

(Sd) R.L.Antrobus.

HE SECRETARY

TO THE TREASURY.

(37)

URGENT

No.78.

Abinger Common,

Surrey,

10th October, 1905.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with the verbal instructions I have received, I have directed Mr Carrigan, Assistant Transport Officer, to leave England to-morrow in order to proceed to India and engage the ten Clerks and twenty-eight transport attendants whose engagement has been approved by the Secretary of State and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

2. I have furnished Mr Carrigan with full written instructions and have requested the Crown Agents to instruct Messrs King and Company to honour his demands up to £4,500 out of which he will practically disburse all the pay, clothing rations, and passages (except the passages from Liverpool to West Africa) which fall in this financial year. This sum includes the amount of £2,121 provided in the current estimates for carts and gear - the requisitions for which the Crown Agents had been asked to hold over pending the decision on the subject of the engagement of Asiatics.

3. I have the honour to request that the India Office may be asked to communicate with the Government of India by telegraph and to obtain from the Viceroy in Council authority for Mr Carrigan to engage Clerks and Transport attendants (to the numbers authorised) who are

in

in Government service. There will, I understand, be no difficulty in this matter provided that the Indian Government is assured that compensation will be paid to Indian transport funds in order to enable the men to count their service continuously towards pension. This contribution (which will be paid in such manner as the Indian Government may desire) will not, I understand, exceed one-eighth of the pay the men draw in India at time of engagement.

Mr Carrigan's address in India is - Paddington Lodge, Kasauli, and telegrams addressed to Carrigan, Kasauli, will find him.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) F.D.LUGARD.

Military Dept.
Form 2.

Copy for _____

DRAFT PARA. OF MILITARY DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

M

[*In reply to Para.* *of your*

Military Despatch, No. ,

dated .]

When a letter is drafted at the same time as a para., the draft para. should be placed underneath the draft letter.

(Form 2.)

17033 L 449 2000 3/1906

Collection 386 British West Africa, Nigeria, Etc. IOR/L/MIL/7/15807. 1897-1920. MS Selected India Office Records on Colonial Africa: Selected India Office Records on Colonial Africa. British Library. Nineteenth Century Collections Online, link.gale.com/apps/doc/AOXFYC576400463/NCCO?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-NCCO&xid=07596336&pg=1. Accessed 29 Apr. 2022.